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WARNING NOTICE
SENSITIVE SOURCES AND
METHODS INVOLVED

DC-1672

Memorandum to Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation,
dated 13 December 1963

TO: Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Attention: Mr. S. J. Papich

FROM: Deputy Director (Plans)

SUBJECT: Mexican Interrogation of Gilberto ALVARADO

1. Attached is a translation of the Mexican police interrogation report on Gilberto ALVARADO, Nicaraguan who claimed to have seen Lee OSWALD accept \$6500 in the Cuban Embassy in Mexico City to assassinate President Kennedy. The report states that ALVARADO retracted these assertions and admitted that he made them to induce the U.S. to take stronger action against Cuba.

3. As you know, ALVARADO retracted the confession of fabrication which he made to the Mexican police and had to be reinterrogated by representatives of this Agency and your Bureau. This later interrogation showed that he was probably lying.

Attachment:
Translation

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By authority of: C. G. A. L. H. H. 4/4/72

Name and title of person making the change
M. H. Y.

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STATEMENT OF Gilberto Nolasco ALVARADO Ugarte

1. This person (ALVARADO) said that he was 24 years old, unmarried, a Catholic, a chauffeur, who came from Ciudad Rama, Department of Celaya, Republic of Nicaragua, and who lives at Calle Pino No. 173 in this capital (Mexico City).

2. He indicated that on August 29 of this year he entered Mexico illegally, bribing an employee of the Migrations Office in Ciudad Cuauhtemoc, Chiapas, Mexico, for 200 pesos. He added that he was repudiating communism and for that reason the object of his coming to Mexico was to try to infiltrate the groups of that affiliation, for the most part Cuban groups,

3. ALVARADO said that by pretending to be a communist, and through Professor Edelberto TORRES, well-known Nicaraguan communist, he met an individual by the name of Carlos Jose, an important employee of the Cuban Embassy. The meeting occurred last September 3 or 4. The pretext of the meeting was that ALVARADO wanted to go to Cuba, and for that reason he told Carlos Jose that he was a good communist. On the 10th or 12th of the same month, an employee of the Cuban Embassy had him fill out a questionnaire and asked him for three photographs, which he has not given her as yet.

4. In the same manner he indicated that using various pretexts he continued to frequent the Cuban Embassy trying to obtain information. On one occasion they told him in the Embassy that in order to enable him to remain in the country (Cuba), they were going to have a lawyer get for him a passport, birth certificate, and certificate of military service as a Mexican and in that way he would travel to Cuba.

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5. He added that on 18 September at about 11:00 a.m. he was in the waiting room of the lobby of the Cuban Consulate (sic) and he observed a North American of 1 meter 75 centimeters in height, medium build, but rather thin, wearing gray trousers, black sport coat, white shirt, a Texas-style cord tie and brown shoes. He noticed the individual because he was very fair skinned, sad looking, and had very dark sunken eyes. The man looked to him like a drug addict. He also noticed that this man's hair was, for the most part, dark, but was streaked with blond. He estimated that the man was about 26 years old. ALVARADO said that from the lobby one can see the street and he saw that opposite the Consulate a taxi pulled up carrying two people: one a negro, tall, of about 1 meter 82 centimeters tall, a thin man, but strong, with bulging eyes, high cheek bones, thick lips, reddish, kinky hair, and wearing a brown suit. The other was white, a young man of about 20, rather beatnik-looking, arrogant-looking, and wearing dark trousers and a light blue coat. He was about 1 meter 70 centimeters in height, of rather robust build. ALVARADO noticed that he carried in his hand a red passport, a passport which from the color he judged to be Canadian. When these two individuals arrived, the North American got up from his seat and greeted them and the three of them went into the Consulate together.

6. After 15 minutes, ALVARADO crossed the waiting room of the Consulate to go to the rest room, and on descending the stairs, he saw a very powerful looking individual, dark in color, tall, wearing white rimmed glasses. The man worked in the Cuban Embassy, because ALVARADO had seen him there before. He saw him give the red haired Negro a package which appeared to contain money. Upon coming out of the rest room, he saw that in a hall the Negro, the Canadian and the North American were having a heated conversation. He noticed that the Negro had a very visible scar on the right side of his chin and that he was counting money and giving it to the North American. ALVARADO heard them counting to the sum of \$6500. ALVARADO went back toward the rest room and noticed that the North American and the Canadian wore shoulder holsters like gangsters use, and he heard the Negro say to the North American, "I can go with you." The North American answered, "You are not a man," and added, "I can do it. I can kill him." ALVARADO left, and on returning to the lobby, noticed that the North American and the Canadian were again entering the office of the Consul but they stopped a few moments to talk with an employee of the Consulate who looked like a prostitute and whose name was Maria Luisa.

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By authority of: SA G. C. 100, 4/4/72

Name and title of person making the change
SA G. C. 100

Date
4/18/72

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7. ALVARADO said after that he went out to buy an ice cream stick, and while doing this he saw the Negro, the North American and the Canadian leave the offices and get into a black, late-model automobile, which appeared to be a Chevrolet. ALVARADO said he thought that a crime was in the making and it occurred to him to inform the United States Embassy but it did not occur to him to go to the Mexican officials. On 20 September he telephoned the American Embassy, but because he did not present himself in person, they paid no attention to him in spite of the fact that he said that the matter was confidential and that he wanted to talk to a high official. He did not go to the American Embassy for fear of being seen by the G-2 or Cuban spies, and so for the moment he forgot the incident. ALVARADO said that he read in the newspapers about the death of the President of the United States and that on seeing the photograph of the assassin he recognized him as the North American whom he had seen in the Cuban Consulate. He therefore again called the American Embassy and succeeded in speaking to a high official with whom he made an appointment for that same day at 5:30 p.m. near the Hotel Maria Isabel. This occurred on 25 September.

8. Two individuals appeared for the appointment. They identified themselves. He told them about the above facts and they made another appointment for 9:15 the next morning in the restaurant, Jena, located on the Avenida Morelos and the Paseo de la Reforma. The two men he met the day before, arrived for the second appointment along with another man whose name was Rodolfo GAVALDON. With these three men he went to the cafeteria of the Hotel Francis after which they drove up and down a few streets in an automobile. He again told them what he had observed in the Cuban Consulate and they gave him a 100 peso bill and told him they would call him at the number 41-07-31, which is the number of the place where ALVARADO lives. They called him that same day at 8:45 p.m. and told him to meet them 30 minutes later in front of the Monument to Juarez. They met him there at the appointed time.

9. GAVALDON and ALVARADO went in a peso cab to the corner of the Hotel Maria Isabel where another American was waiting for them, and together they crossed the street and went to an apartment in a building located on the corner of Oxford and Reforma. Once there, he again related the incidents and in an album of photographs identified the person who gave money to the

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By authority of: *SLC R. J. 4/14/72*

Name and title of

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Negro, to the Consul MIRAVALL, to Maria Luisa, to another employee of the Cuban Embassy as well as to other persons who have been seen in the diplomatic mission.

10. After this, the man gave ALVARADO 500 pesos, told him to move to a hotel, and to tell them to which hotel he was moving. This ALVARADO did the following day, 27 September. He gave GAVALDON a card with the information they wanted, but to date these men have not recontacted him. After making the above statements, ALVARADO indicated the following:

a. That spontaneously, and after reconsideration, he desires to state that the North American to whom he had referred in the body of his statement and whom he saw on 18 September of this year in the Cuban Consulate looked like, and he was 60% sure that he looked like, Lee Harvey OSWALD, the assassin of the President of the United States.

b. That after the assassination of President Kennedy, ALVARADO took advantage of these occurrences, giving versions such as the above one, for the purpose of provoking a strong reaction in favor of the United States against the government of Fidel CASTRO Ruz.

c. That he had no other motive than the deep hatred which he feels for communism, and has throughout his life dedicated himself to combatting communism.

d. That he regrets not having achieved his objective of causing a reaction on the part of the United States government against that of CASTRO.

e. That the telephone conversation which he referred to above in his statement, was not made on 12 September as he said, but rather after the death of President Kennedy, on 25 September. This call was made to the number 46-94-00, which is the number of the American Embassy. From this number he was connected with extension 181 in order to relate the incidents already mentioned.

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By authority of: *SSA 235, 4/4/72*

Name and title of person making the statement
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